

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRAGEDY AT VIRGINIA TECH

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I join so many of my colleagues today to rise in sadness and horror at what happened in Virginia at Virginia Tech. To see the picture of one of the young women, who was allegedly slain, go on the TV screen and see her young beautiful face and realize her life has been taken and thinking of her family and then magnifying this at least 30 times, it is almost too much to bear. This is a terrible tragedy for all of us.

We pray and mourn for those who were lost. At times such as this, the only solace one can take is that God works in ways we don't understand. But I wish to add my condolences to those families who lost loved ones, pray for the recovery of those who were injured, and to all the people of the Virginia Tech community, our hearts go out to you on this sad day.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007—Continued

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I rise to oppose cloture on the Intelligence authorization. There are plenty of things wrong with this bill, but our primary objection, once again, is the way it is being handled on the floor.

The Democratic majority has filed 21 cloture motions so far this session. At this rate, we will have 160 cloture motions by the end of the 110th Congress. This would shatter the old record of 82 back in 1995 and 1996.

The purpose of filing cloture early is to end debate and accelerate the passage of a measure, but abusing this privilege has the opposite effect. If the minority is shut out of the debate, it will block participation until their Members are respected and their voices are given an opportunity to be heard. We have seen this happen again and again over the last 3½ months as the majority has repeatedly struggled and failed to move legislation.

Republicans take no joy in this, but we will continue to defend our right to

be heard. The Senate, as we have learned over the years, is not the House. Contrast this torpid pace of legislation in this Congress with the first 3½ months of the last one, when Republicans passed some of the most far-reaching civil justice reforms in decades. Republicans knew that the price of passing laws was to work with the minority, to have an open debate, and to vote on amendments the other side had to offer.

On bankruptcy reform, for example, we allowed 30 votes, including final passage. On this date, in the first session of the 109th Congress, Republicans had filed only four cloture motions. Looking back to the previous Congress on this date, we had only filed four cloture motions. We have had 21 filed by the new majority.

On this date in the first session of the 108th Congress, we had filed 5 cloture motions, as compared to 21 at this point with the new majority. On this date in the first session of the 107th Congress, we had only filed one cloture motion.

I think the message is pretty clear. I started this session by expressing the hope that we would do big and important things for the country. The realities of divided Government and the rules of the Senate make that supremely possible, and I thought the bipartisan meeting we had that first week in the Old Senate Chamber was a sign of good things to come. I still have that hope, and I see a real opportunity opening with the early steps the majority leader has taken on immigration reform. We are going to that the last 2 weeks before the Memorial Day recess. I think that is a good thing. I commend him for it.

It is my hope that this trend of limited debate and limited amendments—which, of course, leads to the limitation of minority rights—will soon come to an end. Madam President, 3½ months is not that long a time. We can still correct course and accomplish very important things for our country.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order and pursuant to rule XXII, the clerk will report the motion to invoke cloture.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 20, S. 372, the Intelligence Authorization bill of 2007.

Harry Reid, Chuck Schumer, Russell D. Feingold, Jay Rockefeller, Evan Bayh, Patty Murray, Dick Durbin, Jeff Bingaman, Robert Menendez, B.A. Mikulski, Dianne Feinstein, Bill Nelson, E. Benjamin Nelson, S. Whitehouse, Byron L. Dorgan, Blanche L. Lincoln, Ron Wyden.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that de-

bate on S. 372, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Intelligence Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA), are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would each vote "yea."

LOTT. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) would have voted "nay."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 41, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 130 Leg.]

YEAS—41

Akaka	Durbin	Murray
Baucus	Feingold	Nelson (NE)
Bayh	Feinstein	Pryor
Bingaman	Inouye	Reed
Boxer	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Brown	Klobuchar	Salazar
Byrd	Kohl	Sanders
Cantwell	Leahy	Schumer
Cardin	Levin	Stabenow
Carper	Lieberman	Tester
Casey	Lincoln	Webb
Clinton	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Conrad	Menendez	Wyden
Dorgan	Mikulski	

NAYS—40

Alexander	Crapo	Lugar
Allard	Dole	McConnell
Bennett	Domenici	Murkowski
Bond	Enzi	Reid
Bunning	Grassley	Sessions
Burr	Hagel	Shelby
Chambliss	Hatch	Smith
Coburn	Hutchison	Snowe
Coleman	Inhofe	Specter
Collins	Isakson	Stevens
Corker	Kyl	
Cornyn	Lott	